Fourth Review Conference
of the Parties to the Treaty
on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

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LETTER DATED 12 SEPTEMBER 1990 FROM THE DELEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE FOURTH REVIEW CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE TREATY ON THE NON-PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

The delegation of the Republic of Turkey has the honour to enclose herewith the text of the reservation of the Republic of Turkey concerning the participation of Cyprus in the Fourth Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and to request that the attached text be circulated as an official Conference document to be included in the Final Document.

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Annex

Turkey formally registers its reservation with regard to the participation of Cyprus in The Fourth Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, as such representation is neither legal nor legitimate.

There is no single authority which, in fact or in law, jointly represents or is competent to represent the Turkish Cypriots and the Greek Cypriots, and consequently Cyprus as a whole. This is the reason why a negotiating process is being pursued between the Turkish Cypriot and the Greek Cypriot leaders on the basis of equality.

"The Republic of Cyprus" which was established, in accordance with international treaties, on the basis of a partnership between the two peoples of the island, has ceased to exist as such after its Constitution was unilaterally and unlawfully abrogated in 1963 by the Greek Cypriot side by use of force, despite the protestations and the resistance of the Turkish Cypriot side. The Greek Cypriot administration has ever since represented exclusively the Greek Cypriots and their interests. Turkey, as a guarantor power under the 1960 Treaty of Guarantee, does not recognize this administration or any of its illegitimate claims.

The Turkish Cypriot people are represented by the Government and the authorities of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus which was recognized by Turkey in 1983. In order for Cyprus to be represented as a whole in the Conference, the participation of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus would also have been required. As this has not been the case, the purported representation of Cyprus by an administration in the Conference which speaks only on behalf of the Greek Cypriot population of the island is devoid of any legal or legitimate basis.

Accordingly, any consequences that may arise from such illegal and illegitimate participation in the Conference shall have no validity or applicability for Turkey.